Remarks/Arguments

The Official Action of January 26, 2005, has been considered. Reconsideration of this application, in view of the remarks below, is respectfully requested.

I. Status of the Claims

Claims 1-9 are pending, and are subject to restriction and species election. There are no amendments.

II. Restriction and Species Election Requirement

In the Office Action dated January 26, 2005, the Examiner requires restriction between the following two claim groups:

Group I: Claims 1-7, covering compounds of formula I; and

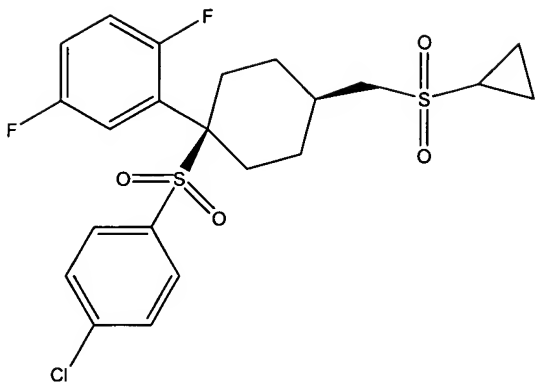
Group II: Claims 8 and 9, covering methods of treating a subject suffering from or prone to a condition associated with the deposition of β-amyloid.

Further, if Group I is elected, the Examiner requires election of a single compound of formula (I).

In response to the restriction requirement, applicants elect the Group I claims, without traverse.

In response to the species election requirement, applicants elect the compound of Example 65 (at pages 46-47 of the specification), which is

1-(4-Chlorophenylsulfonyl)-1-(2,5-difluoro-phenyl)-4-(cyclopropylsulfonylmethyl)-cyclohexane



Claims 1-4, 6 and 7 read on the elected species. Claims 1-3 and 7 read on the elected species when Ar^1 and Ar^2 are each phenyl substituted with halogen, L is $-(CHR^a)_n-$, R^a is hydrogen, n is 1, X is $(CR^aR^b)_mSO_2R^1$, wherein m is 0 and R^1 is a C_3 cycloalkyl. Claim 4 reads on the elected species when p is 1 and Y is $(CR^aR^b)_mSO_2R^1$, wherein m is 0 and R^1 is a C_3 cycloalkyl. Claim 6 reads on the elected species when Ar^1 is 4-chlorophenyl and Ar^2 is 2,5-difluorophenyl.

III. Rejoinder

The Examiner is reminded of the rejoinder provisions of M.P.E.P. § 821.04, which provides for rejoinder of process claims which are dependent from or include all the limitations of an allowable product claim. Thus, the Group II claims 8 and 9 should be rejoined upon a determination of allowability of the Group I claims.

IV. Priority Claim

The cover sheet of the January 26 office action did not indicate a priority claim for this application. The Examiner is reminded that this application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 to Great Britain application No. 0223039.9, filed October 4, 2002. A certified copy of the priority Great Britain application was filed on January 23, 2004. The claim for priority is also indicated on the Official Filing Receipt, mailed December 29, 2003.

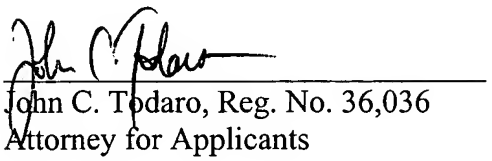
In view of the foregoing, the Examiner is requested to acknowledge the claim for priority.

V. Conclusion

In view of the action taken, it is respectfully requested that the application proceed to examination.

Favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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Date: February 23, 2005